

DECEMBER 2003 EXCLUSIVELY FOR SURVEY RESPONDENTS

Dear Respondent:

*This issue of the **NEW MEXICO AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE SPECIAL SURVEY RESULTS** covers the results of the Pecan December Forecast. This is being sent exclusively to those of you who responded to our request for data. The information you provided made these published estimates possible. Thank you for your cooperation and the time spent completing the surveys.*

Sincerely,

Dwaine C Nelson

Dwaine C. Nelson
State Statistician

NEW MEXICO: The December 1 forecast for the 2003 **pecan** utilized production is 55 million pounds (in-shell basis), unchanged from the October forecast as harvest is well underway. This year's production is above last year's 36 million pounds but well below the record bumper crop of 60 million set in 2001.

UNITED STATES: The December 1 forecast for 2003 pecan utilized production is 264 million pounds (in-shell basis), down 6 percent from the October 1 forecast but 53 percent above last year's crop. Frequent rains throughout the summer in Georgia produced extensive disease and insect pressures. Scab disease was widespread and shuck decline added to poor nut quality. Oklahoma had dry weather during the summer and significant wildlife damage later in the season. These two States are the contributors to the 6 percent reduction from the October 1 forecast. The large increase from last season is related to the high year of the alternate bearing cycle. Improved varieties are expected to make up 204 million pounds or 77 percent of the total, while the Native and seedling varieties make up the difference.

PECANS: UTILIZED PRODUCTION 2001-02 AND FORECASTED
DECEMBER 1, 2003

| Crop and State | Utilized Production | | |
|---|------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
| | -----1,000 Pounds----- | | |
| IMPROVED VARIETIES ^{1/} | | | |
| AL | 10,000 | 4,000 | 7,000 |
| AZ | 21,000 | 16,000 | 23,500 |
| AR ^{2/} | 1,950 | 1,200 | 1,800 |
| CA ^{2/} | 3,700 | 3,800 | 3,700 |
| FL ^{2/} | 1,200 | 500 | 500 |
| GA | 85,000 | 42,000 | 50,000 |
| LA | 3,500 | 2,000 | 5,000 |
| MS ^{2/} | 3,000 | 2,100 | 3,500 |
| NM | 60,000 | 36,000 | 55,000 |
| NC ^{2/} | 2,700 | 1,500 | 2,100 |
| OK | 2,000 | 1,500 | 2,000 |
| SC ^{2/} | 2,500 | 120 | 1,300 |
| TX | 50,000 | 20,000 | 49,000 |
| NATIVE & SEEDLING | | | |
| AL | 5,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| AR ^{2/} | 650 | 500 | 1,500 |
| FL ^{2/} | 2,100 | 900 | 1,600 |
| GA | 25,000 | 3,000 | 10,000 |
| KS ^{2/} | 2,200 | 2,900 | 2,300 |
| LA | 10,500 | 4,000 | 10,000 |
| MS ^{2/} | 1,500 | 900 | 1,500 |
| NC ^{2/} | 500 | 400 | 400 |
| OK | 18,000 | 8,500 | 10,000 |
| SC ^{2/} | 1,500 | 80 | 200 |
| TX | 25,000 | 20,000 | 21,000 |
| U.S. ALL PECANS | 338,500 | 172,900 | 263,900 |

^{1/} Budded, grafted, or topworked varieties. ^{2/} Estimated for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.